

King of Kings, Lord of Lords

Text: Hebrews 1:1-4

Introduction:

1. This song, written by Robert L. Howard in 1941, is connected – at least in spirit – to the Hallelujah Chorus of Handel's *Messiah*.
2. It proclaims the powerful and comforting truth that Jesus is King of kings and Lord of lords.
3. Other men have made this claim – Artaxerxes (Ezra 7:12), Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 4:30; cf. 2:37; Ezekiel 26:7 – *God called him "a king of kings"*), etc.
4. However, Jesus is the only true King of kings and Lord of lords (1 Timothy 6:15; Revelation 17:14; 19:16).
5. Hebrews 1:1-4 declares seven reasons why Jesus is King of kings...

I. Inheritance

- A. This is the classical way of becoming a king.
- B. Jesus inherited a kingdom because He is God's Son (cf. Psalm 2).
 1. He is the firstborn of all creation (Hebrews 1:6; Romans 8:29; Colossians 1:15).
 2. He is the "only begotten" (Hebrews 1:5; 11:17; John 3:16).
- C. God has spoken by "a son" – greater than prophets or angels (1:4-8; 3:6).

II. Creation

- A. Jesus created the world (John 1:3; Colossians 1:16-17; cf. Genesis 1:26).
- B. Thus, He is the King of the world.
- C. The church is His new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17; Matthew 16:18).

III. Personal Excellence

- A. Jesus is the most qualified to reign as King because He lived without sin.
- B. He manifested God to the world (John 1:14, 18; 12:45; 14:9; 2 Corinthians 4:6; Colossians 2:9).

IV. Divine Right

- A. Jesus is God; therefore, He is King!
- B. He was an exact replica of the essence of God, an engraving of the very nature of God, made known to the world (John 1:1; 10:30).

V. Right of Maintenance

- A. Jesus is the sustainer of life (John 1:4; 14:6).
- B. He holds together all existence (Matthew 10:29-30; Acts 17:28; Colossians 1:16-17).
- C. Therefore, He is King!

VI. Right of Purchase

- A. The USA governs Alaska because it was purchased (cf. *The Louisiana Purchase*).
- B. Jesus purchased the kingdom (church); thus, He is King (Acts 20:28).

VII. Accomplished Fact

- A. Jesus is King because He has taken the kingdom.
- B. He "sat down" at the right hand of God because His work is completed.
 - 1. The crucifixion of Jesus declares this (John 19:28-30).
 - 2. The ascension of Jesus confirms this (Daniel 7:13-14).
 - 3. The victory of Jesus assures this (Psalm 24:7-10).
 - 4. The return of Jesus concludes this (Luke 19:11-28).
- C. He will reign until all enemies have been conquered, then deliver the kingdom to His Father (1 Corinthians 15:25).

Conclusion:

There is a sweet peace dwelling within me, since Jesus took my load;
He gives me vict'ry over all evil, I sing along life's road.

No more the sin-cloud o'er me can tarry, since I gave Him control;
Blessed assurance He speaks unto me, sweet comfort to my soul.

He is my King, my Lord and my Keeper, He gives me love's sweet song;
Soon I shall join the great celebration, with heaven's countless throng.

King of kings, Lord of lords, Honor to His great Name;
King of kings, Lord of lords, Praising His holy Name.
Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

- 1. There is peace, comfort, and victory for those who submit to the reign of King Jesus.
- 2. By following Jesus, as a faithful citizen of His kingdom, one will reach the great celebration in Heaven.
- 3. Truly, He is King of kings and Lord of lords.
- 4. He deserves the praise of His world and the obedience of all mankind.